Data Sheet

USAID Mission: Uzbekistan **Program Title: Democratic Culture and Institutions** Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance Pillar: Strategic Objective: 122-0211 Status: Continuing Planned FY 2005 Obligation: \$5,900,000 FSA **Prior Year Unobligated:** \$2,859,000 FSA Proposed FY 2006 Obligation: \$5,127,000 FSA

Proposed FY 2006 Obligation: \$5,127,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation: 2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation: 2007

Summary: USAID's democracy efforts create stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increase the availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues; enhance opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and develop more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$467,000 FSA). USAID will extend its democratic housing activities to a total of six sites, potentially affecting as much as 68% of total residents, using previous successes in citizen-controlled housing partnerships to increase public awareness and demand for reform, to inform policy discussions, and to replicate best practices. Principal contractors/grantees: Urban Institute (prime), Institute for Urban Economics/Moscow (sub), and Barents (sub).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$2,101,000 FSA, \$1,564,000 FSA carryover). USAID will build the institutional capacity of a local Association of Civil Society Resource Centers (CSSCs). The advocacy program will target democracy non-governmental organizations (NGOs), professional membership associations, and special interest groups. A new civic education program is planned for secondary schools, or through informal means should working with the Government not be possible. Principal contractors/grantees: Counterpart International (prime), International Research and Exchanges Board (prime), the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (sub), Partners for Democratic Change (sub), and TBD (prime).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$675,000 FSA, \$651,000 FSA carryover). USAID will provide media production grants, programming, and business management training, and promote a supportive enabling environment and freedom of speech. In communities at-risk for conflict, USAID will consider creating a community radio network with programs related to employment, public interest meetings, health, and youth. Principal contractors/grantees: Internews Network (prime), Internews Uzbekistan (sub), International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) (sub), Adil Soz (sub), and TBD (prime).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$2,657,000 FSA, \$644,000 FSA carryover). The legal reform program will provide technical training and adult learning techniques to judges. USAID will assess whether judicial reform assistance should continue when this contract ends in FY 2005. USAID will build practical writing and oral advocacy skills through moot courts, mock trials, Street Law, and legal clinics, promote student bar associations, and incorporate a critical thinking course into law school curriculum. A follow-on human rights defender (HRD) support program will strengthen the role, skills, strategies, and protection of HRDs through trainings, roundtables, technical support, and access to information through three resource centers. USAID will integrate support to five public defender centers into its human rights follow-on program. A new award related to religion, state, and society will engage the Government and religious community through facilitated roundtables and outreach programs to promote freedom of religion. The anti-trafficking in persons (TIP) program will build the institutional capacity of local partners,

highlight prevention through hotlines and public awareness campaigns, and provide victim protection with a new shelter in Tashkent. Principal contractors/grantees: Freedom House (prime), the American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (sub), and TBD (prime).

FY 2006 Program: Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$492,000 FSA). USAID will focus on an improved legal environment for housing partnerships, strengthening their capacity as self-governing bodies, and supporting the development of housing advocacy groups. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$1,615,000 FSA). As USAID's civil society programs end in FY 2006, the emphasis of the program will shift to civic advocacy. USAID will continue, at a reduced level, institution-building of NGOs through direct funding of an Association of CSSCs, assuming it is capable of managing donor funds on its own. USAID will expand its civic education program to new schools or groups of youths. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD.

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$711,000 FSA). USAID will facilitate media training, provide production grants and programming, and support local freedom of speech advocacy. Principal contractors/grantees: Internews Network (prime), Internews Network Uzbekistan (sub), ICFJ (sub), and Adil Soz (sub).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$2,309,000 FSA). The legal reform program will focus on sustainability of the law clinics, human rights law firms, moot courts, mock trials, and Street Law programs, and continue the critical thinking course. Pending the outcome of an assessment in FY 2005, USAID may continue judicial reform activities. A follow-on human rights support program will provide grants, technical assistance, access to information, and legal services, at the same time opening dialogue between activists and government officials. Anti-trafficking activities will focus on victim protection and prosecution of traffickers. Principal contractors/grantees: Freedom House (prime), ABA/CEELI (sub), and TBD.

Performance and Results: USAID exceeded expectations for progress in human rights and housing reform in Uzbekistan this year due to a surprising increase in the Government's political will to open dialogue on human rights and to change housing management policies. Through CSSCs, legal clinics, public defender centers, and human rights resource centers, USAID protected the rights of citizens and organizations that otherwise would not have received such critical support. Government restrictions and harassment of our implementing partners created difficult conditions, especially for media and civil society. USAID's chances of increasing judicial independence to promote fair and accountable law enforcement also stagnated with the lack of political will. By program's end, there will be stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increased availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues; enhanced opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Uzbekistan

122-0211 Democratic Culture and Institutions	ESF	FSA
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	550	11,942
Expenditures	0	4,698
Unliquidated	550	7,244
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	0	6,432
Expenditures	516	6,515
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	550	18,374
Expenditures	516	11,213
Unliquidated	34	7,161
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	2,859
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	0	5,900
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	0	8,759
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	0	5,127
Future Obligations	0	6,000
Est. Total Cost	550	38,260